

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments, and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-34 are pending. Claims 15, 17, 21, 22, 24, 27, and 30-34 are amended. No new matter is introduced.

In the Office Action, Claims 15, 32, and 33 were objected to for informalities, and Claims 30 and 31 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75 as being substantial duplicates of Claims 25 and 26, respectively. In addition, Claims 15, 16, 20, 25-27, and 30-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement; Claims 17-19, 21-24, 28, and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement; and Claims 15-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

With respect to the objection to the claims, Claim 15 is amended as suggested in the Office Action, and Claims 30-33 are amended to depend from Claim 17. In view of these amendments, each of these claims are believed to be in proper form. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the objections to Claims 15 and 30-33 be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 15, 16, 20, 25-27, and 30-33 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, lines 18-20 of amended Claim 15 recite “said second sun gear being selectively connected through a fourth clutch to said first intermediate output path, selectively connected through a third clutch to said second intermediate output path, and selectively fixed through a first brake to said stationary member.” As acknowledged at page 4 of the Office Action, these features are fully enabled by the disclosure as originally filed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the enablement rejection relating to Claims 15, 16, 20, 25-27, and 30-33 be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of Claims 17-19, 21-24, 28, and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, amended Claim 17 no longer recites a "collinear chart." Amended Claim 17 and the claims depending therefrom are believed to be enabled by the disclosure as originally filed. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested the enablement rejection relating to Claims 17-19, 21-24, 28, and 29 be withdrawn.

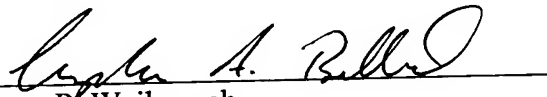
With respect to the indefiniteness rejections, Claims 15 and 33 each recite "said second sun gear" instead of "said first sun gear" at the portions noted by the Office Action, Claim 17 no longer recites "a collinear chart," and amended Claims 21, 22, 24, and 27 are believed to include the necessary antecedent basis. Accordingly it is respectfully requested the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

For the reasons discussed above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance for Claims 15-34 is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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